THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Th Indian Council of Medical Research had undertaken a limited study which included a survey of food contaminants in milk. The majority of the samples were found to contain pesticide residues within the tolerance limits prescribed under the P.F.A. Rules. The study did not however, comment on the presence of toxic metals or fungal particles in milk.

(c) The Food Health Authorities of all States/U.Ts have been alerted to be more vigilant about the presence of contaminants including pesticide residues in food, to draw random samples for analysis and initiate appropriate punitive action under the PFA Act, 1954 to ensure sale of pure and wholesome food including milk.

Proposals of International Commission on Population and quality of life

202. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Commission on population and Quality of Life met a number of leaders of India during its visit to India;

(b) if so, the number of members who are representing the Commission, what are the main purposes of this commission and to what extent Government of India will be getting help from this population panel;

(c) whether any concrete proposals have been prepared by this Commission about the population and quality of life to be improved; and

(d) whether any concrete proposals have been implemented in this regard during the Eighth Five Year Plan period in India?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Independent Commission on Population and Quality of Life was initiated by several Govts., Foundations and International Oaganisations. It has 20 members. No concrete proposals and no offer of assistance have been received by Government of Indian from the Commission.

(d) Does not arise.

Rise in cases of AIDS in Asia

203. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the Hindustan Times of 11th July, 1994 captioned "Asia may top in AIDS Cases" to the effect that by the end of the century, judging by the current rising graph of the incidence in India among other countries";

(b) whether according to Dr. Michael Merson, Executive Director of W.H.O.'s Global Programme on AIDS, the Asian region has recorded an eighth fold increase during July, 1993 June, 1994 from more than 30,000 to about 2,50,000 i.e. from one per cent to six per cent of the total;

(c) whether it is fact that the Manipur in the north east HIV prevalence rates among injecting drug users rose to 50 per cent between the late 1980s and 1982; and

(d) if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take or have taken so far in this regard indicating the programme chalked out with WHO and other voluntary organisations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Such an assessment was made in July, 1994 by WHO.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A comprehensive National AIDS Control Programme is currently under implimentation throughout the country including Manipur. The strategies to combat AIDS consist of strengthening the Programme management, generation of awareness amongst risk behaviour groups and promotion of condom for prevention and control of STD and HIV infection, Blood safety and rational use of blood and better facilities for surveillance Diagnosis and management of HIV|AIDS cases. NGOs have also been involved in the North Eastern States especially to create awareness about the AIDS.

Cases of illegal abortions in the country

204. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the Hindustan Times 8th July, 1994 captioned 95 per cent abortions in the country are illegal" and a large number totally unsafe and that out of 11.2 million abortions annually only 0.6 million are legal;

(b) whether Government's attention has also been drawn to a recent study undertaken by the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration that ratio of illegal abortions|unsafe abortions done by untrained persons are increasing in the country and that with a abortion rate of 452 for every 1,000 live births, there is a high morbidity and even mortality; and

(c) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take so as to make women fully aware of the safety aspect of a legal, medical termination.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Government has seen the news item.

(b) No study has been conducted by the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration in this regard.

(c) Government is providing assistance for training of doctors in MTP, purchase of MTP Suction Aspirators, Setting up of MTP Cell in the State and IEC activities.

Legislation to Ban Contaminated Milk

205. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMLY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is persistent demand to remove contaminants from milk;

(b) whether the milk presently contains heavy metals and pesticides which are health hazard;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to introduce legislation to ban use of such milk;

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what other steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report of the Indian Council of Medical Research which did a limited study into the presence of food contaminats found pesticide residents in the milk samples. The majority of samples were within the tolerance limits prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules.

(c) and (d) Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules made thereunder prohibit the sale of